

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A digital camera comprising:

a range finding sensor to measure a distance to an object;

an imaging device configured to receive an image of the object;

a focus lens configured to image the image of the object on the imaging device;

a first focusing system of obtaining a focusing position by sampling a contrast of an object image formed on a light receiving surface with moving a focus lens along an optical axis;

a second focusing system of obtaining the focusing position by measuring a distance to an object with the range finding sensor based on a triangular surveying system without using the focus lens;

an edge enhancement processing device configured to emphasize an edge component of an image signal of a photographed image obtained by photographing said object;

a selection device configured to select that one of the first focusing system and the second focusing system is operative or that both of the first and second focusing systems are operative together; and

a system control unit having a first level conversion characteristic in which a predetermined gain setting value is set and a second level conversion characteristic in which a gain setting value larger than the gain setting value of the first level conversion characteristic is set,

wherein the first focusing system is configured to detect the focusing position by means of the imaging device,

wherein the second focusing system is configured to detect the focusing position by means of the range finding sensor, and

wherein the system control unit sends the first level conversion characteristic to the edge enhancement processing device when the first focusing system is selected to be operative independently by the selection device, or the first and the second focusing systems are selected to be operative together by the selection device, and sends the second level conversion characteristic to the edge enhancement processing device when the second focusing system is selected to be operative independently by the selection device, so that the edge component is emphasized.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): A digital camera comprising:

a range finding sensor to measure a distance to an object;

an imaging device configured to receive an image of the object;

a focus lens configured to image the image of the object on the imaging device;

a first focusing system of obtaining a focusing position by sampling a contrast of an object image formed on a light receiving surface with moving a focus lens along an optical axis;

a second focusing system of obtaining the focusing position by measuring a distance to an object with the range finding sensor based on a triangular surveying system without using the focus lens;

an edge enhancement processing device configured to emphasize an edge component of an image signal of a photographed image obtained by photographing said object and

a selection device configured to select that one of the first focusing system and the second focusing system is operative or that both of the first and second focusing systems are operative together; and

a system control unit having a first level conversion characteristic in which a predetermined limit setting value is set and a second level conversion characteristic in which a limit setting value larger than the limit setting value of the first level conversion characteristic is set,

wherein the first focusing system is configured to detect the focusing position by means of the imaging device,

wherein the second focusing is configured to detect the focusing position by means of the range finding sensor, and

wherein the system control unit sends the first level conversion characteristic to the edge enhancement processing device when the first focusing system is selected to be operative independently by the selection device, or the first and the second focusing systems are selected to be operative together by the selection device, and sends the second level conversion characteristic to the edge enhancement processing device when the second focusing system is selected to be operative independently by the selection device, so that the edge component is emphasized.

Claim 3 (Currently amended): A digital camera comprising:

a range finding sensor to measure a distance to an object;

an imaging device configured to receive an image of the object;

a focus lens configured to image the image of the object on the imaging device;

a first focusing system of obtaining a focusing position by sampling a contrast of an object image formed on a light receiving surface with moving a focus lens along an optical axis;

a second focusing system of obtaining the focusing position by measuring a distance to an object with the range finding sensor based on a triangular surveying system without using the focus lens;

an edge enhancement processing device including a digital filter configured to enhance an edge component of an image signal of a photographed image obtained by photographing said object;

a selection device configured to select that one of the first focusing system and the second focusing system is independently operative or that both of the first and second focusing systems are operative together; and

a system control unit having a first level conversion characteristic in which a setting value of a digital filter is set and a second level conversion characteristic in which a setting value of the digital filter having a characteristic which enhances a high frequency component than the setting value of the digital filter of the first level conversation characteristic is set,

wherein the first focusing system is configured to detect the focusing position by means of the imaging device,

wherein the second focusing system is configured to detect the focusing position by means of the range finding sensor, and

wherein the system control unit sends the first level conversion characteristic to the edge enhancement processing device when the first focusing system is selected to be operative independently by the selection device, or the first and the second focusing systems are selected to be operative together by the selection device, and sends the second level conversion characteristic to the edge enhancement device when the second focusing system is selected to be operative independently by the selection device, so that the edge component is emphasized.

Claim 4 (New): The camera according to Claim 1, wherein the range finding sensor includes a first range lens arranged parallel to an optical axis, and a second range lens arranged parallel to the optical axis on an opposite side of the optical axis from the first range lens.

Claim 5 (New): The camera according to Claim 4, wherein the range finding sensor includes a first photo sensor array configured to receive a first image via the first range lens, and a second photo sensor array configured to receive a second image via the second range lens, wherein

a range finding information arithmetic unit is configured to calculate an object distance based on a difference in data obtained by the first and second photo sensor arrays.

Claim 6 (New): The camera according to Claim 2, wherein the range finding sensor includes a first range lens arranged parallel to an optical axis, and a second range lens arranged parallel to the optical axis on an opposite side of the optical axis from the first range lens.

Claim 7 (New): The camera according to Claim 6, wherein the range finding sensor includes a first photo sensor array configured to receive a first image via the first range lens, and a second photo sensor array configured to receive a second image via the second range lens, wherein

a range finding information arithmetic unit is configured to calculate an object distance based on a difference in data obtained by the first and second photo sensor arrays.

Claim 8 (New): The camera according to Claim 3, wherein the range finding

sensor includes a first range lens arranged parallel to an optical axis, and a second range lens arranged parallel to the optical axis on an opposite side of the optical axis from the first range lens.

Claim 9 (New): The camera according to Claim 8, wherein the range finding sensor includes a first photo sensor array configured to receive a first image via the first range lens, and a second photo sensor array configured to receive a second image via the second range lens, wherein

a range finding information arithmetic unit is configured to calculate an object distance based on a difference in data obtained by the first and second photo sensor arrays.